



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation

AGENCY: Office of Postsecondary Education, U.S. Department of Education, National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation.

ACTION: The purpose of this notice is to announce the upcoming meeting of the National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and Accreditation (NCFMEA). Parts of this meeting will be open to the public, and the public is invited to attend those portions.

MEETING DATE AND PLACE: The public meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 30, 2012, from 8:30 a.m. until approximately 5:00 p.m., at the U.S. Department of Education, Eighth Floor Conference Center, Office of Postsecondary Education, 1990 K Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

FUNCTION: The NCFMEA was established by the Secretary of Education under Section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. The NCFMEA's responsibilities are to:

- Upon request of a foreign country, evaluate the standards of accreditation applied to medical schools in that country; and,

- Determine the comparability of those standards to standards for accreditation applied to United States medical schools.

Comparability of the applicable accreditation standards is an eligibility requirement for foreign medical schools to participate in the William D. Ford Federal Direct Student Loan Program, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1087a et seq.

MEETING AGENDA: The NCFMEA will review the standards of accreditation applied to medical schools by several foreign countries to determine whether those standards are comparable to the standards of accreditation applied to medical schools in the United States and/or reports previously requested of countries by the NCFMEA. Discussion of the standards of accreditation will be held in sessions open to the public. Discussions resulting in specific determinations of comparability are closed to the public in order that each country may be properly notified by the Department of the Committee's decision.

The countries scheduled to be discussed at the meeting include Australia/New Zealand, Dominican Republic, Ireland, Israel, Mexico, Pakistan, Saba, Slovak Republic, Taiwan, and the United Kingdom. The meeting agenda, as well as the staff analyses pertaining to the meeting will be posted on the Department of Education's web site prior to the meeting at

<http://www2.ed.gov/about/bdscomm/list/ncfmea.html>.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS: The meeting site is accessible to individuals with disabilities. If you will need an auxiliary aid or service to participate in the meeting (e.g., interpreting service, assistive listening device, or materials in an alternate format), notify the contact person listed in this notice by September 28, 2012, although we will attempt to meet a request received after that date.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Carol Griffiths, Executive Director for the NCFMEA, U.S. Department of Education, 1990 K Street, N.W., Room 8073, Washington, DC 20006-8129, telephone: 202 219-7035; fax: 202 502-7874, or e-mail:

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David A. Bergeron,
Acting Assistant Secretary
for Postsecondary Education.

[FR Doc. 2012-20282 Filed 08/16/2012 at 8:45 am; Publication Date: 08/17/2012]